



USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With

AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



IAW

AFI 48-123 (24 SEPT 2009), Chapter 12
and USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)

(revised 25 January 2010)

Integrity - Service - Excellence



USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With

AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



Refractive Surgery Management Groups

To Effectively Utilize RS Resources,
AF Personnel Are Assigned to One of Three Management Groups

- Trained “Aviation and Aviation-Related Special Duty (AASD) personnel
- Applicants to AASD
- Warfighter Personnel





Complete Details On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>

Integrity - Service - Excellence

2

Guidelines IAW AFI 48-123, Chapt 12



USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With
AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)

Refractive Surgery Authorization for Treatment Location



- **Active Duty (AD) and Air Reserve Component (ARC) Eligible for AD Elective Surgery Benefits**
 - Authorized RS at any DOD RS Center and post-RS management at local military treatment facility at no cost.
 - Authorized treatment and post-RS management at civilian RS Center at own expense.
- **ARC Not Eligible for AD Elective Surgery Benefits**
 - Authorized treatment and post-RS management at civilian RS Center at own expense.

Complete Details On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>

Integrity - Service - Excellence

3

Guidelines IAW AFI 48-123, Chapt 12



USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With
AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)

Refractive Surgery Location Authorizations


- **Priority I**
 - AF AASD Career Fields
 - Does not include aviators permanently DQ or cross-trained from aviation.
- **Priority II**
 - Personnel whose routine military duties require wear of NVG, eye protection, or respiratory protection.
 - Does not include nuclear biological chemical (NBC) mask worn only for deployment.
- **Priority III**
 - Personnel who do not meet above criteria

Complete Details On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>

Integrity - Service - Excellence


4

Guidelines IAW AFI 48-123, Chapt 12



USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With
AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



Aviation/Warfighter Determination

- **Air Force Specialty Code (AFSC)**
 - Assigned to AF members according to career specialty
 - Officer AFSC – 4 character sequence (1st two are number)
 - Enlisted AFSC – 5 character sequence (1st is a number , 2nd is a letter)
 - AFSC prefix and suffix are authorized for some AFSC careers
- **Aviation Service Code (ASC)**
 - 2 character sequence indicating flight status and flight/hazardous duty pay authorization. Member must have current or recent flight orders to have an ASC assigned. Recent aviation career personnel will be managed by AFSC with a reasonable assumption that flight orders will be forthcoming.

Complete Details On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>

Integrity - Service - Excellence


5

Guidelines IAW AFI 48-123, Chapt 12

AFSC is a code used by AF Personnel Office to track and assign personnel according to their training and qualifications.


ASC is a code used by finance and personnel to determine: Flight/hazardous duty pay authorization; amount of flight/hazardous duty pay eligibility - (i.e. officer vs enlisted, year of flight duty (pay in incremented early in career, stabilizes, and terminates through career), career aviator vs operational support, rated vs non rated, etc)

Neither code was designed for use for the refractive surgery program. So there are some situations that are not clearly defined.




USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With
AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



Who Are Aviators / Who Are Warfighters

- **Aviators – Rated Officers**
 - Pilots (AFSC 11xx)
 - Navigators (AFSC 12xx)
 - Air Battle Managers (AFSC 13Bx)
 - Flight Surgeons (AFSC 48xx)
- **Aviators – Non-rated Officers/Career Enlisted Aircrew**
 - Examples (not inclusive)
 - Flight Nurse (AFSC 46Fx)
 - Aircrew Operations (AFSC 1Axxx)
 - Combat Controllers (AFSC 1C2xx, 1C4xx)
 - Pararescue (AFSC 1T2xx)



Complete Details On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>

Integrity - Service - Excellence

6

Guidelines IAW AFI 48-123, Chapt 12

AFSC is a code used by AF Personnel Office to track and assign personnel according to their training and qualifications.

ASC is a code used by finance and personnel to determine: Flight/hazardous duty pay authorization; amount of flight/hazardous duty pay eligibility - (i.e. officer vs enlisted, year of flight duty (pay in incremented early in career, stabilizes, and terminates through career), career aviator vs operational support, rated vs non rated, etc)

Neither code was designed for use for the refractive surgery program. So there are some situations that are not clearly defined.



USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With
AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



Who Are Aviators / Who Are Warfighters

- **Aviators – Non-Aviation Career (with operational flight duty)**
 - Flight Test Engineer/Developmental Engineer (AFSC 62Ex)
 - Parachutist (any AFSC)
 - Any AFSC with current flight orders performing in-flight duties
- **Warfighters –**
 - AF members not specifically qualifying as AASD
 - Aviators permanently disqualified from flight duties



How do you know for sure?

Complete Details On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>


Integrity - Service - Excellence

Guidelines IAW AFI 48-123, Chapt 12

There are other personnel who are considered Priority I under this program that are not by career considered aviation personnel. These are listed. Everyone else is considered warfighters for the purpose of this program.


Note: what is the easy way to know? Wearing a flight suit... not necessarily because policy says priority I does not include disqualified aircrew. Wearing BDU is a warfighter... not necessarily because they may be assign to flight duties but not authorized a flight suit due to career or local policy.

So how do you know ?



USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With
AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



Program Management Tool

- **Current Status –**

– AFSC = 48A4

 - *Flight Surgeon*
 - *Aviation Officer*

– ASC = 8A

 - *Active*
- **Management Group**

– Priority I

 - AASD Management

USAF Refractive Surgery (USAF-RS) "Management Group Determination"		AFSC Entered	Officer/Enlisted	Career Level
Enter AF Service Code (AFSC)	48A4	48A4	Officer	Staff
		AFSC Description	Prefix	Suffix
		AEROSPACE MEDICINE SPECIALIST		
Enter Aviation Service Code (ASC)	8A	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> B A flight surgeon ordered to participate in frequent and regular aerial flights, assigned to duties requiring such participation (APIO position), and qualifies for conditional ACP under OGD/PAK flying requirements. Conditional ACP (Medical). </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> A Active-Operational Flying: A rated officer or CEA assigned to operational flying duties (excluding Undergraduate Flying Training students), and aircrew members with approved FAC 4, 5, 6, and E waivers. </div>		
		AFSC indicates:	Aviation Medical Personnel	Aviation Management
		ASC indicates:	Aviation Personnel - Non-Career Aircrew	Aviation Management
USAF-RS Priority	I	Follow IAW Aviation Management Upon receipt of a "Permission to Proceed" authorization from the USAF-RS Registry, the member may schedule treatment as directed.		

This tool was last updated on: 05 JAN 2010 (based on AFI 48-123 - 24 SEPT 09)

Program Determination Tool Available On-line:

Complete Details On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>

Integrity - Service - Excellence


Guidelines IAW AFI 48-123, Chapt 12

Program Determination Tool Available On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>

AFSC references a Flight Surgeon – a rated aviation officer


ASC references that this member is on active flight orders as a medical officer

Management group is I, AASD Management



USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With
AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



Program Management Tool

- Current Status –**
 - AFSC = K1A71
 - *Aerial Gunner*
 - *Aviation Enlisted*
 - ASC = AA
 - *Active*
- Management Group**
 - Priority I
 - AASD Management

USAF Refractive Surgery (USAF-RS) "Management Group Determination"

Enter AF Service Code (AFSC)	K1A71	AFSC Entered	1A711	Officer/Enlisted	Enlisted	Career Level	Helper
		AFSC Description	Aerial Gunner				
			Aircrew Instructor				

Enter Aviation Service Code (ASC)

AA

A: A CEA who has up to 10 years of aviation service. Continuous CDPP (0 to 10 years).

A: Active-Operational Flying. A rated officer or CEA assigned to operational flying duties (excluding Undergraduate Flying Training students), and aircrew members with approved FAC 4, 5, 6, and 8 waivers.

AFSC indicates: Aviation Personnel Aviation Management

ASC indicates: Aviation Personnel - Non-Career Aircrew Aviation Management

USAF-RS Priority

I

Follow IAW Aviation Management

Upon receipt of a "Permission to Proceed" authorization from the USAF-RS Registry, the member may schedule treatment as directed.

This tool was last updated on: 05 JAN 2010 (based on AFI 48-123 - 24 SEPT 09)

Program Determination Tool Available On-line:

Complete Details On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>

Integrity - Service - Excellence


Guidelines IAW AFI 48-123, Chapt 12

Program Determination Tool Available On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>

AFSC references an Aerial gunner – a Career Enlisted Aviator


ASC references that this member is on active flight orders

Management group is I, AASD Management



USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With
AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



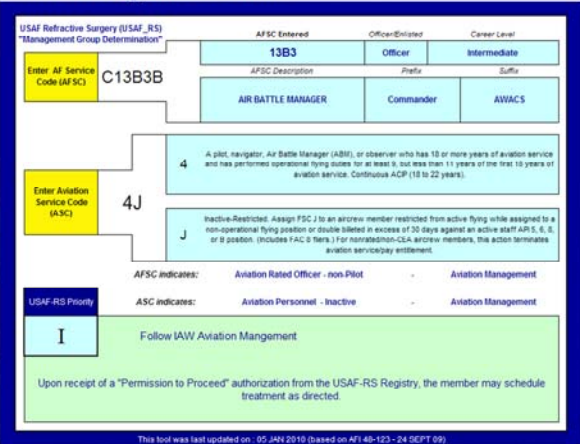
Program Management Tool

- **Current Status –**

– AFSC = 13B3
 – Air Battle Manager
 – Aviation Officer

– ASC = 4J
 – Inactive
- **Management Group**

– Priority I
 – AASD Management



This tool was last updated on: 05 JAN 2010 (based on AFI 48-123 - 24 SEPT 09)

Program Determination Tool Available On-line:

Complete Details On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>

Integrity - Service - Excellence


Guidelines IAW AFI 48-123, Chapt 12

Program Determination Tool Available On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>

AFSC references an Air Battle Manager – a rated aviation officer


ASC references that this member is on IN-active flight orders. It is assumed that Career AASD personnel will return to flight duties at some future time.

Management group is I, AASD Management



USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With
AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



Program Management Tool

- **Current Status –**

– AFSC = 11K3
 – *Trainer Pilot*
 – *Aviation Officer*

– ASC = O3
 – *Disqualified*
- **Management Group**

– Priority II or III
 – Warfighter Management

USAF Refractive Surgery (USAF_RS) "Management Group Determination"		AFSC Entered	Officer/Enlisted	Career Level
Enter AF Service Code (AFSC)	Q11K3Z	11K3	Officer	Aircraft Commander
AFSC Description		Prefix Suffix		
TRAINER PILOT		Standardization and Evaluation Other		
Enter Aviation Service Code (ASC)	03	0 An individual disqualified or suspended from aviation/parachutist service according to AFI 11-42. Disqualified or Suspended (No ACPHQR/CEFP authorized).		
3 Disqualified. Medical disqualification.				
AFSC indicates: Aviation Rated Officer - Pilot Aviation - Special Requirements				
USAF_RS Priority ASC indicates: Aviation Personnel - Disqualified for Flight Duties Warfighter management				
II / III	Follow IAW Warfighter Management			
Upon receipt of USAF-RS Registry's "Permission to Proceed" authorization, member may schedule treatment as directed. Priority II: Personnel whose routine military duties require wear of Night Vision Goggles (NVG), eye protection, or respiratory protection... does not include nuclear biological chemical (NBC) masks worn only for deployment. Priority III: Personnel who do not meet priority I or II criteria.				

This tool was last updated on: 05 JAN 2010 (based on AFI 48-123 - 24 SEPT 09)

Program Determination Tool Available On-line:

Complete Details On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>

Integrity - Service - Excellence


Guidelines IAW AFI 48-123, Chapt 12

Program Determination Tool Available On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>

AFSC references a Pilot assigned to a career to train other aircrew – a rated aviation officer


ASC references that this member has been medically disqualified from flight duties. It is assumed that they will never return to flight assignments and are therefore not assigned as priority I

Management group is II or III, Warfighter Management



USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With
AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



Program Management Tool

- Current Status –**
 - AFSC = 2A553
 - Avionic Systems
 - Non – Aviation
 - ASC = None
 - No Flight Orders
- Management Group**
 - Priority II or III
 - Warfighter Management

USAF Refractive Surgery (USAF-RS) "Management Group Determination"

Enter AF Service Code (AFSC)	2A553C	AFSC Entered 2A5X3	Officer/Enlisted Enlisted	Career Level Journeyman
		AFSC Description	Prefix	Suffix
		Integrated Avionics Systems (Heavy)		Electronic Warfare
Enter Aviation Service Code (ASC)		No ASC Entered		
		No ASC Entered		
USAF-RS Priority II / III		AFSC indicates: Warfighter - Warfighter Management ASC indicates: Warfighter Management - Warfighter Management		
Follow IAW Warfighter Management				
Upon receipt of USAF-RS Registry's "Permission to Proceed" authorization, member may schedule treatment as directed. Priority II: Personnel whose routine military duties require wear of Night Vision Goggles (NVG), eye protection, or respiratory protection... does not include nuclear biological chemical (NBC) masks worn only for deployment. Priority III: Personnel who do not meet priority I or II criteria.				

This tool was last updated on: 05 JAN 2010 (based on AFI 48-123 - 24 SEPT 09)

Program Determination Tool Available On-line:

Complete Details On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>

Integrity - Service - Excellence


Guidelines IAW AFI 48-123, Chapt 12

Program Determination Tool Available On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>

AFSC references an Enlisted member – a non-aviation career


ASC references that this member has no active or inactive flight orders

Management group is II or III, Warfighter Management



USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With
AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



Program Management Tool

- Current Status –**
 - AFSC = 2A553A
 - Avionic Systems
 - Non – Aviation
 - ASC = AA
 - Active
- Management Group**
 - Priority I
 - AASD Management

USAF Refractive Surgery (USAF-RS) "Management Group Determination"		AFSC Entered	Officer/Enlisted	Career Level
Enter AF Service Code (AFSC)	2A553A	2A5X3	Enlisted	Journeyman
		AFSC Description	Prefix	Suffix
		Integrated Avionics Systems (Heavy)		Communication, Navigation, and Mission
Enter Aviation Service Code (ASC)	AA	A. A CEA who has up to 10 years of aviation service. Continuous CDFP (0 to 10 years). A. Active-Operational Flying. A rated officer or CEA assigned to operational flying duties (excluding Undergraduate Flying Training students), and aircrew members with approved FAC 4, 5, 6, and 8 waivers.		
		AFSC indicates:	Warfighter	Warfighter Management
		ASC indicates:	Aviation Personnel - Non-Career Aircrew	Aviation Management
USAF-RS Priority	I	Follow IAW Aviation Management using Warfighter CRS Refractive Limits Upon receipt of a "Permission to Proceed" authorization from the USAF-RS Registry, the member may schedule treatment as directed.		

This tool was last updated on: 05 JAN 2010 (based on AFI 48-123 - 24 SEPT 09)

Program Determination Tool Available On-line:

Complete Details On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>

Integrity - Service - Excellence

13


Guidelines IAW AFI 48-123, Chapt 12

Program Determination Tool Available On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>


AFSC references an Enlisted member – a non-aviation career

ASC references that this member is on active flight orders


Management group is I, AASD

**U.S. AIR FORCE**

USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM
In Accordance With
AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



The Application Process



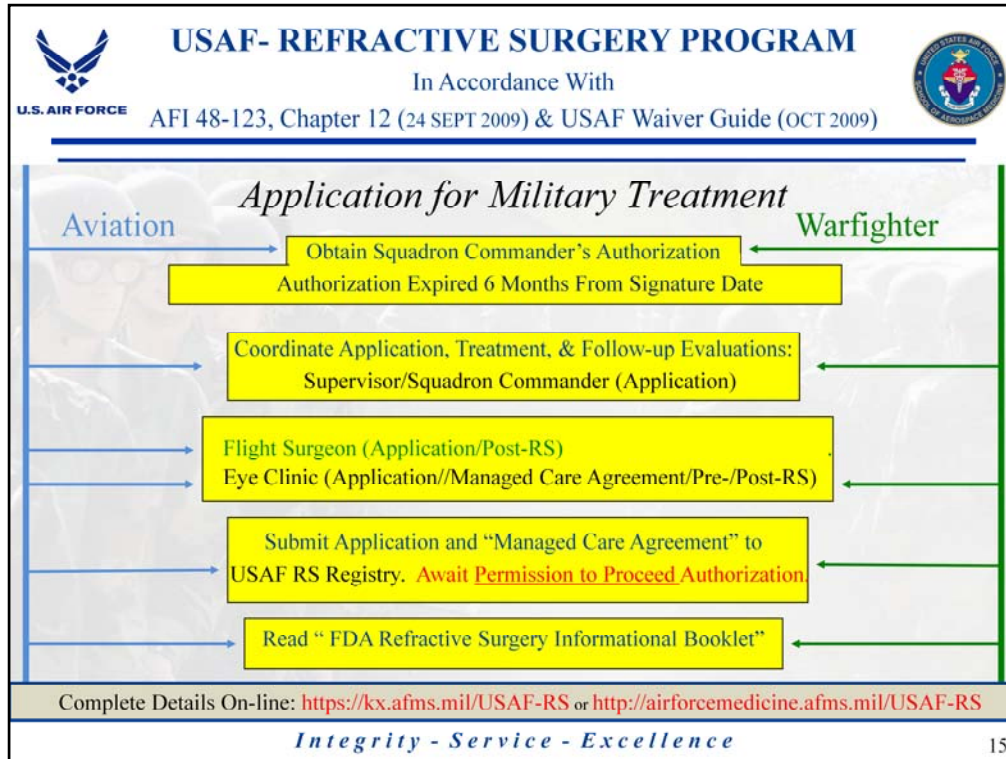
Integrity - Service - Excellence

14

Vision is a critical tool for operational performance. A close second is the need for paper work.

All AF personnel (Active Duty, Air National Guard, and AF Reserve) are required to complete the application process and receive “Permission to Proceed” authorization from the USAF RS Registry PRIOR TO treatment

Personnel from other service are managed in accordance with their respective service’s guidance.

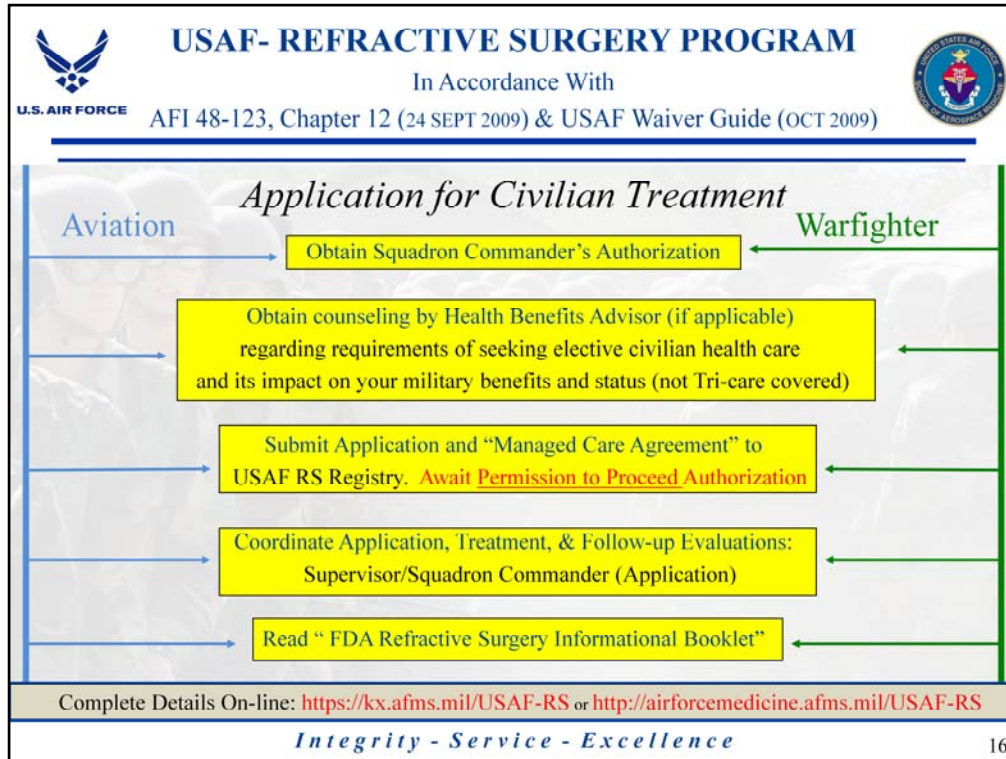


These are the steps for seeking treatment within the DOD.

All AF personnel (Active Duty, Air National Guard, and AF Reserve) are required to complete the application process and receive "Permission to Proceed" authorization from the USAF RS Registry PRIOR TO treatment

Personnel from other service are managed in accordance with their respective service's guidance.

Complete Details On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>





These are the steps for seeking treatment outside the DOD

All AF personnel (Active Duty, Air National Guard, and AF Reserve) are required to complete the application process and receive "Permission to Proceed" authorization from the USAF RS Registry PRIOR TO treatment

Personnel from other service are managed in accordance with their respective service's guidance.


Complete Details On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>



USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With
AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)

Pre-Refractive Surgery Requirements



Complete details for AASD personnel are available in RS Waiver Guide

Complete details for Warfighter personnel are available in Clinical Criteria Guidelines

Complete Details On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>

Integrity - Service - Excellence

17

Details in AFI 48-123 (24 SEPT 2009), Chapter 12 and USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)




USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With
AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



Pre-Refractive Surgery Criteria

- Must Have AD Retainability** (before AD Elective Surgery Benefits expire)
 - 6 Months (Aviation and Warfighters)
- Must Age 21 or older**
- If Contact Lens Wearer, Discontinue Wear Prior To Application/Treatment**
 - at least 30 days (Soft Contact Lens)
 - at least 90 days (Hard/Rigid Contact Lens)

Complete Details On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>

Integrity - Service - Excellence

18

Details in AFI 48-123 (24 SEPT 2009), Chapter 12 and USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)

AD Retainability refers to how much time remains before a member's eligibility for Active Duty Elective Surgery Benefits expire.


For AD enlisted – how much time remains on current enlistment contract

For AD officers – how much time remains before mandatory separation (retirement, voluntary/involuntary separation)

For Active Duty Equivalent ARC – same as AD guidance

For Traditional ARC – not eligible for DOD treatment, therefore N/A. But must coordinate with commander.


Contact Lenses cause minor to significant amount of corneal edema which may affect the RS outcome. RS treatments are scaled on a micron (1/1000 of a millimeter) measure. Therefore even minor edema may impact desired results.



U.S. AIR FORCE

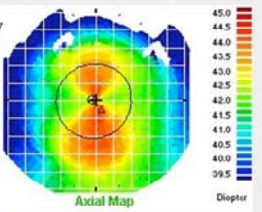
USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With
AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



Pre-Refractive Surgery Criteria

- **Demonstrate stable refractions**
 - ≤ 0.50 Diopter shift in manifest sphere or cylinder power
 - Provide on the application: 1 current refraction
 - Provide on the application: 1 refraction at least one year older
- **Normal Corneal Topography (CT) in both eyes**
 - No evidence of abnormal corneal surface topography
Including but not limited to:
 - Corneal irregularity
 - Abnormal videokeratography
 - Keratoconus
 - “Topographical Pattern Suggestive of Keratoconus (TPSK)”





Axial Map

Complete Details On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>

Integrity - Service - Excellence

19

Details in AFI 48-123 (24 SEPT 2009), Chapter 12 and USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)




USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With
AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)

Pre-Refractive Surgery Criteria

- **No History or Evidence of (including, but not limited to):**
 - Active Ophthalmic Disease
 - Corneal neovascularization (within one millimeter of ablation zone)
 - Central crystalline lens opacifications (post-subcapsular cataract)
 - Keratoconjunctivitis sicca or Severe dry eyes
 - Uveitis
 - Keratitis
 - Excessive pupil enlargement
 - Glaucoma
 - Predisposing disorder to glaucoma development
 - Pigment Dispersion Syndrome (PDS) with IOP greater than 21 mm Hg
 - Retinal Pathology




Complete Details On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>

Integrity - Service - Excellence


20

Details in AFI 48-123 (24 SEPT 2009), Chapter 12 and USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With
AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



Pre-Refractive Surgery Criteria

- **No concurrent topical or systemic medication which may impair healing**
 Including but not limited to:

– Corticosteroids	– Isotretinoin (Accutane®)
– Antimetabolites	– Amiodarone hydrochloride (Cordarone®)
	– Sumatriptan (Imitrex®)

- **No medical conditions which may impair healing**
 Including but not limited to:

– Collagen vascular disease	– Immunodeficiency disease
– Autoimmune disease	– Ocular herpes zoster or simplex
– Endocrine disorders, (thyroid disorders, diabetes, etc)	


- **Not currently pregnant or breastfeeding**
 – Must be at least six months post-partum or after discontinuing breastfeeding

Complete Details On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>

Integrity - Service - Excellence


21

Details in AFI 48-123 (24 SEPT 2009), Chapter 12 and USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With
AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



Pre-Refractive Surgery Criteria


- Aviation/Aviation Related Special Duty – Cycloplegic Refraction**

Myopia (Most myopic plane)	≤ -8.00 Diopters
Hyperopia (Most hyperopic plane)	≤ +3.00 Diopters
Astigmatism	≤ 3.00 Diopters

- AD pilots/ boom operators with hyperopia are required to complete a pre-RS baseline evaluation at the Aeromedical Consultation Service (ACS)
- AD pilots requesting LASIK or with refractive errors; > -5.50D and ≤ -8.00, or hyperopia, are required to compete a 12 month post-RS evaluation at the ACS in conjunction with waiver renewal

- Warfighters**

- FDA Limits of RS Platform and/or Treatment Center Limits



Complete Details On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>

Integrity - Service - Excellence

22

Details in AFI 48-123 (24 SEPT 2009), Chapter 12 and USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)

RS Clinical Assessment Tool uses information from the application data to provide a tentative assessment of suitability for treatment. Use as a guide only. Final treatment decisions are made by the USAF-RS Registry, the USAF RS Consultant, and the treating RS surgeon.

 **USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM** 
In Accordance With
AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)

Pre-Refractive Surgery Criteria
*Retreatment or Enhancement will managed as
a “New” treatment. A new application
package and “Permission to Proceed”
authorization is required.*

Complete Details On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>

Integrity - Service - Excellence 23

Details in AFI 48-123 (24 SEPT 2009), Chapter 12 and USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With

AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)




What Type of Refractive Surgery Is Approved ?



Complete Details On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>


Integrity - Service - Excellence

24



USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With
AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



Approved Refractive Surgery Procedures

- **Advanced Surface Ablation (ASA)** - Aviation and Warfighters
 - Photorefractive Keratectomy (PRK)
 - Laser In-Situ Epithelial Keratomileusis (LASEK)
 - Epi-LASIK
 - Wave-Front Guided Photorefractive Keratectomy (WFG-PRK)
- **Intra-Stromal Ablation (ISA)** - Aviation and Warfighters
 - Laser In-Situ Keratomileusis (LASIK)
 - Wave-Front Guided Laser In-Situ Keratomileusis (WFG-LASIK)
 - "All LASER LASIK" (corneal flap created with femtosecond LASER)
- **Other FDA Approved RS procedures - Warfighters Only**
 - If approved by AF/SG RS Consultant
- **Unauthorized RS Procedures**
 - Radial Keratotomy (RK)

Complete Details On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>

Integrity - Service - Excellence

25

Details in AFI 48-123 (24 SEPT 2009), Chapter 12 and USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With

AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)





Post-Refractive Surgery



Integrity - Service - Excellence

26



USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With
AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)

Warfighters : Post-RS and Return to Duty Retirements


- **Initiate AF Form 469: Duty Limiting Condition Report**
 - Managed by member's PCM in coordination with local eye care clinic.
 - Will not DEPLOY or PCS while on steroid eye drops after any RS procedure.
 - Will not be eligible for DEPLOYMENT until steroid eye drops are discontinued and at least 1-month post-RS.
- **Must Be Evaluated By a DoD eye care provider**
 - To be cleared to resume unrestricted duties
 - May return to limited duties (not deployable) within a few days of surgery as recommended by local eye care provider
 - Must meet applicable USAF vision standards (AFI 48-123, chapter 5) before returning to full duty.
 - If corrective lenses are required to meet applicable vision standards, they must be prescribed and worn.

Complete Details On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>

Integrity - Service - Excellence


27

Details in AFI 48-123 (24 SEPT 2009), Chapter 12 and USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With
AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



Warfighters : Post-RS and Return to Duty Retirements

- **Follow-up Evaluation Schedule must be accomplished**
 - IAW USAF-RS schedule
 - AF Knowledge Exchange (DotMil): <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS>
 - Public Access: <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>

WARFIGHTER REFRACTIVE SURGERY FOLLOW UP					
	1 MONTH	2 MONTH (PRK ONLY)	3 MONTH	6 MONTH	12 MONTH
Meds	X	X	X	X	X
History	X		X	X	X
Symptoms	X	X	X	X	X
UCVA	X		X	X	X
TA/IOP	X	X	X	X	X
Manifest Rx	X		X	X	X
BCVA	X		X	X	X
SLE	X		X	X	X
DFE					X



Complete Details On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>

Integrity - Service - Excellence

28

Details in AFI 48-123 (24 SEPT 2009), Chapter 12 and USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)

Follow-up schedule as posted on 25 Jan 2010





USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With
AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)

Applicant to AASD: Post-RS and Return to Flight Retirements

- **Must be a minimum of twelve (12) Months post-RS for waiver disposition**
 - Applicant may begin waiver process no sooner than nine (9) months post-RS.
- **Examining Flight Surgeon:**
 - Must enter all pre- and post-RS documentation in PEPP and AIMWTS.
 - Including documentation of applicants medically disqualified at the time of their initial flying class physical examination
 - Aeromedical summary accompanying the initial physical examination must include documentation that all clinical criteria are met.





Complete Details On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>

Integrity - Service - Excellence

29

Details in AFI 48-123 (24 SEPT 2009), Chapter 12 and USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With
AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)


Current AASD: Post-RS and Return to Flight Retirements

- **Must comply with post-RS evaluations as defined in USAF Waiver Guide**
 - AF Knowledge Exchange (DotMil): <https://kx.afms.mil/waiverguide>
 - Public Access: <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/waiverguide>
- **ARC member, unless eligible for AF medical care benefits:**
 - Must accomplish required post-RS evaluations at own expense from civilian RS provider.
 - Copies of post-RS evaluations must be provided and entered into AF medical record.
- **Member's Flight Surgeon:**
 - Will submit aeromedical summary and all required waiver documentation in AIMWTS (per the waiver guide) for forwarding to the waiver authority.
 - Waiver authority will not grant any waivers until all required information is received in AIMWTS and made available to the USAF-RS Aviation Program Manger (APM).

Complete Details On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>


Integrity - Service - Excellence

Details in AFI 48-123 (24 SEPT 2009), Chapter 12 and USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With
AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



Current AASD: Post-RS and Return to Flight Retirements

- **Follow-up Evaluation Schedule**
 - IAW USAF-RS schedule
 - AF Knowledge Exchange (DotMil): <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS>
 - Public Access: <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>

AASD REFRACTIVE SURGERY FOLLOW UP					
	1 MONTH	2 MONTH (PRK ONLY)	3 MONTH	6 MONTH	12 MONTH
Meds	X	X	X	X	X
History	X		X	X	X
Symptoms	X	X	X	X	X
UCVA PV - HC & 5%	X		X	X	X
TA/IOP	X	X	X	X	X
OVT Depth Perception	FOR RETURN TO FLIGHT WAIVER ONLY				
Manifest Rx	X		X	X	X
BCVA PV - HC & 5%	X		X	X	X
Cyclo Rx	FOR RETURN TO FLIGHT WAIVER ONLY				
SLE	X		X	X	X
DPE	MUST BE DONE FOR RETURN TO FLIGHT WAIVER and 12 MONTH F/U				
POST OP EVENTS	X		X	X	X



Complete Details On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>

Integrity - Service - Excellence

31

Details in AFI 48-123 (24 SEPT 2009), Chapter 12 and USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)

Follow-up schedule as posted on 25 Jan 2010



USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With
AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)

Current AASD: Post-RS and Return to Flight Retirements

- **Member's Flight Surgeon:**
 - Any visual complaints, surgical complications, post-surgical incidents, or duty restrictions must be documented /submitted via AIMWTS at initial or renewal waiver
 - If corrective lenses required to meet applicable vision standards, They must be prescribed and worn.
 - If NVGs required for duty position, applicable NVG vision standards must be met.
 - No DEPLOYMENT or PCS while on steroid eye drops after any RS procedure.
 - While on steroid eye drops, place on non-mobility status, restricting deployment and PCS via AF Form 469: Duty Limiting Condition Report – minimum 1 month post-RS.
 - Member will not schedule RS at a time where surgery or recovery would interfere with an anticipated deployment cycle
 - Individual exceptions to the PCS rule *may* be granted on a case-by-case basis.

Complete Details On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>

Integrity - Service - Excellence

Details in AFI 48-123 (24 SEPT 2009), Chapter 12 and USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With
AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)

Current AASD: Post-RS and Return to Flight Retirements

- **Member's Flight Surgeon:**
 - Will submit aeromedical summary and all required waiver documentation in AIMWTS (per the waiver guide) for forwarding to the waiver authority.
 - Waiver authority will not grant any waivers until all required information is received in AIMWTS and made available to the USAF-RS Aviation Program Manager (APM)
 - **NOTE: Return to flying status with local AF Form 1042 prior to waiver approval by the waiver authority IS NOT authorized**




Complete Details On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>

Integrity - Service - Excellence


33

Details in AFI 48-123 (24 SEPT 2009), Chapter 12 and USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With
AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



Current AASD: Post-RS and Return to Flight Retirements

- **Waiverable Examination Results: (As defined in USAF Waiver Guide)**
 - AF Knowledge Exchange (DotMil): <https://kx.afms.mil/waiverguide>
 - Public Access: <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/waiverguide>

Table 2 Waiverable Examination Results

Examination	Waiverable Results
Best corrected visual acuity (OVT)	20/20 or better each eye*
Precision Vision 5% low contrast chart	20/50 or better each eye*
Slit lamp exam	LASIK – no striae or flap complications* PRK – no more than trace corneal haze*
Refractive error	Stable, no more than 0.50 diopter shift in manifest sphere or cylinder refractive power between two readings at least 2 weeks apart*
Intraocular pressure (IOP)	Normal – ≤ 21 mmHg*
Fundus exam	No new or previously unrecognized retinal pathology†
Depth perception (OVT-DP)	Line D, E or F. If fails and previously waived for depth perception using AO Vectograph then waived limits of that test. See defective depth perception/stereopsis waiver guide.

* If outside these limits, refer to local eye care provider and/or treating refractive surgery center. If condition is unable to be resolved refer case to ACS.
† Work-up and submit waiver request for new diagnosis.



Complete Details On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>

Integrity - Service - Excellence

34

Details in AFI 48-123 (24 SEPT 2009), Chapter 12 and USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)

Follow-up schedule as posted on 25 Jan 2010



USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With
AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)

Current AASD: Post-RS and Return to Flight Retirements


- **Required Aeromedical Summary Items for Waiver Submission**
 - History (*AASD applicants & Trained AASD Initial and Renewal waivers*)
 - Pre-op Cycloplegic Refractions
 - Surgical procedure, date and location
 - Assessment (negative and positive) of post-op: symptoms of glare, halos, reduced night vision, and diplopia
 - Eye Medications usage, past and current, including discontinuation dates.
 - Address whether all clinical criteria prior to RS were met (*AASD applicants only*)
 - Presence of surgical/post-RS complications (*AASD applicants only*)
 - Copy of “Permission to Proceed” authorization letter
 - Copy of Surgical documentation
 - Copy of Post-RS evaluations (as required by waiver guide)
 - Copy of Any RS – related incidences

Complete Details On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>

Integrity - Service - Excellence


35

Details in AFI 48-123 (24 SEPT 2009), Chapter 12 and USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With
AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



Current AASD: Post-RS and Return to Flight Retirements

- **Required Items for INITIAL/RENEWAL AASD waiver submission.**
 - Current Physical (*AASD applicants & Trained AASD Initial and Renewal waivers*)
 - Uncorrected and Best corrected Visual Acuity
 - High Contrast using OVT – Low Contrast using PV 5% low contrast chart
 - Cycloplegic refraction and Dilated Fundus Exam (DFE)
 - Two manifest post-op refractions at least 2 weeks apart demonstrating stability
 - No more than 0.50 Diopters shift in manifest sphere or cylinder
 - *For AASD waiver renewal only one (current) manifest post-op refraction is required.*
 - Slit Lamp Exam, including grading of haze
 - Intraocular pressures (IOPs)
 - Depth Perception (OVT-DP)
 - If fails and previously waived for defective depth perception using AO Vectograph, then include AO Vectograph.

Complete Details On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>

Integrity - Service - Excellence

36

Details in AFI 48-123 (24 SEPT 2009), Chapter 12 and USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)

USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With

AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)

Refractive Surgery Requirements Summary Table

		PRK ⁹		LASIK ⁸		Hyperopia ⁷
		< = -5.50	> -5.50 to -8.00	< = -5.50	> -5.50 to -8.00	Plano to +3.00
Pilots	Surgery	Any DoD RS Center/Civilian ¹	Any DoD RS Center/Civilian ¹	Any DoD RS Center/Civilian ¹	Any DoD RS Center/Civilian ¹	WHMC/Civilian ¹
	1-year follow-up	Local Eye Clinic/Civilian ¹	ACS	ACS	ACS	ACS
	Waiver Authority ⁶	MAJCOM ²	AFMSA	MAJCOM ²	AFMSA	AFMSA
In-flight Refuelers	Surgery	Any DoD RS Center/Civilian ¹	Any DoD RS Center/Civilian ¹	Any DoD RS Center/Civilian ¹	Any DoD RS Center/Civilian ¹	WHMC/Civilian ¹
	1-year follow-up	Local Eye Clinic/Civilian ¹	Local Eye Clinic/Civilian ¹	Local Eye Clinic/Civilian ¹	Local Eye Clinic/Civilian ¹	ACS
	Waiver Authority ⁶	MAJCOM ²	AFMSA	MAJCOM ²	AFMSA	AFMSA
Other Trained Flyers	Surgery	Any DoD RS Center/Civilian ¹	Any DoD RS Center/Civilian ¹	Any DoD RS Center/Civilian ¹	Any DoD RS Center/Civilian ¹	Any DoD RS Center/Civilian ¹
	1-year follow-up	Local Eye Clinic/Civilian ¹	Local Eye Clinic/Civilian ¹	Local Eye Clinic/Civilian ¹	Local Eye Clinic/Civilian ¹	Local Eye Clinic/Civilian ¹
	Waiver Authority ⁶	MAJCOM ²	MAJCOM ²	MAJCOM ²	MAJCOM ²	MAJCOM ²


Complete Details On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>

Integrity - Service - Excellence

37

37

Details in AFI 48-123 (24 SEPT 2009), Chapter 12 and USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)




U.S. AIR FORCE

USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With

AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



Refractive Surgery Requirements Summary Table

		PRK ⁹		LASIK ⁸		Hyperopia ⁷
		< = -5.50	> -5.50 to -8.00	< = -5.50	> -5.50 to -8.00	Plano to +3.00
Pilot Applicants³	Surgery	USAFA/Civilian & AD ¹	USAFA/Civilian & AD ¹	WHMC/Civilian & AD ¹	WHMC/Civilian & AD ¹	WHMC/Civilian & AD ¹
	Initial follow-up for waiver ⁴	USAFA/ACS at time of MFS	ACS/ACS at time of MFS	ACS/ACS at time of MFS	ACS/ACS at time of MFS	ACS/ACS at time of MFS
	Waiver Authority	AETC ²	AETC ^{2,5}	AETC ^{2,5}	AETC ^{2,5}	AETC ^{2,5}
UAS Operators	Surgery	Any DoD RS Center/Civilian ¹	Any DoD RS Center/Civilian ¹	Any DoD RS Center/Civilian ¹	Any DoD RS Center/Civilian ¹	Any DoD RS Center/Civilian ¹
	Initial follow-up for waiver	Local Eye Clinic/Civilian ¹	Local Eye Clinic/Civilian ¹	Local Eye Clinic/Civilian ¹	ACS/ACS at time of MFS	ACS
	Waiver Authority	AFMSA ²	AFMSA ^{2,5}	AFMSA ^{2,5}	AFMSA ^{2,5}	AFMSA ^{2,5}


Complete Details On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>

Integrity - Service - Excellence

38

38


Details in AFI 48-123 (24 SEPT 2009), Chapter 12 and USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With

AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



Refractive Surgery Requirements Summary Table

Notes From Tables

1. If eligible for TRICARE medical benefit (e.g. AD), treatment can occur at any DoD center. If not eligible for TRICARE medical benefit (e.g. civilian, ROTC & most ANG/AFRC), will go to civilian provider.
2. May not be delegated to local waiver authority.
3. AD pilot applicants are considered Warfighters until selected for training [they must have a qualified PE (pending MFS) before selection].
4. Initial follow up in conjunction with FC I application could be greater than one year after surgery (e.g. history of PRK or LASIK greater than one-year ago). ACS evaluation required for all LASIK and >-5.50 diopters.
5. For USAFA cadets, ACS evaluation is required prior to waiver (no "contingent on MFS" waivers).
6. Waiver authority for initial and renewal.
7. For both PRK and LASIK
8. Minimum DNIF of 1 month is required following LASIK. Initial waiver can be requested once applicable vision standards are met and refractive stability is established.
9. No minimum DNIF period is established following PRK, however, 2-3 months is generally required for enough corneal healing to occur to meet applicable vision standards and for refractive stability to occur.

Complete Details On-line: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or <http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>

Integrity - Service - Excellence

39

Details in AFI 48-123 (24 SEPT 2009), Chapter 12 and USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With



AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



Responsibilities



Integrity - Service - Excellence



USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With
AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



Responsibilities – Member’s Squadron Commander

- **Maintain working understanding** of AF RS programs and requirements
- **Grant or deny authorization** for USAF-RS application based on best interest of the AF.
 - Commander’s authorization expires six months after date of the signature.
- **Certify Member:**
 - Meets AASD or Warfighter Management Group definition
 - Has sufficient service retainability (minimum 6 months)
 - Assign appropriate treatment prioritization
- **Authorize unit-funded TDYs** for treatment at DoD facilities for eligible AD/ARC pilots and AD/ARC in-flight refuelers.
 - Non-pilot/in-flight refueler personnel may be authorized unit-funded or permissive TDY.
 - Leave Status is not authorized for treatment at DoD RS Centers.
 - TDY en route for RS must be authorized only after coordination for follow-up care.
- **Support operational restrictions** following USAF-RS treatment, as required.
- **Once returned to flying status**, strongly encourage to require post-RS pilots accomplish; first day, first night sortie; first night refueling; first night formation flight: with an instructor pilot to assure operational flight safety.

Integrity - Service - Excellence

41

Details in AFI 48-123 (24 SEPT 2009), Chapter 12 and USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With
AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)

Responsibilities – Member (AF personnel – AD or ARC)

- **Submit** RS application & required supporting documentation/evaluation
- **Obtain** authorization from the USAF Refractive Surgery Registry (APM/WPM)
 - May not proceed granted “Permission to Proceed” authorization
- **Obtain** squadron commander’s permission and application endorsement
- **Coordinate** application, treatment, & follow-up evaluations with flight surgeon/PCM, & eye clinic.
 - **All;** Notify Flight Surgeon / PCM within 1 week of RS procedure
 - **DoD:** Notify Flight Surgeon and Eye Clinic to arrange follow-up & administrative actions
 - **Civilian:** Notify Flight Surgeon to coordinate appropriate administrative actions
- **Read** FDA refractive surgery informational booklet prior to RS
 - Available on-line at: <https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS> or airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS
- **Undergo only authorized UAF-RS procedures** IAW AFI 48-123 / Waiver Guide

Integrity - Service - Excellence

42

Details in AFI 48-123 (24 SEPT 2009), Chapter 12 and USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With
AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)

*Responsibilities – **Flight Surgeon (Aviation Management)***

- **Maintain working understanding** of AF RS programs and requirements
- **Aircrew POC** during RS application, treatment, post-RS management
- **Initiate** AF Form 469 - DLC report as required and appropriate grounding actions
 - May not deploy or PCS until steroid eye drops have been discontinued, Minimum 1 month post-RS
 - May be authorized to PCS while on steroid eye drops only after coordination with gaining eye care provider
- **Submit** aeromedical summary and all required waiver documentation in the Aeromedical Information Management Waiver Tracking System (AIMWTS) for forwarding to the waiver authority
- **Provide** squadron education briefings on RS and policy. May be in conjunction with the local optometrist/ophthalmologist
- ***If co-management is by non-AF eye care provider, FS is responsible for entering required documents into AHLTA & hard copy medical records.***

Integrity - Service - Excellence

43

Details in AFI 48-123 (24 SEPT 2009), Chapter 12 and USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With

AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



Responsibilities – PCM (Warfighter Management)



- **Maintain working understanding** of AF RS programs and requirements
- **Initiate** AF Form 469 - DLC report as required.
 - May not deploy or PCS until steroid eye drops have been discontinued, Minimum 1 month post-RS
 - May be authorized to PCS while on steroid eye drops only after coordination with gaining eye care provider
- ***If co-management is by non-AF eye care provider, PCM is responsible for entering required documents into AHLTA and hard copy medical records.***



Integrity - Service - Excellence

44

Details in AFI 48-123 (24 SEPT 2009), Chapter 12 and USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With
AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



Responsibilities – Air Force Eye Care Provider

- **Maintain working understanding** of AF RS programs and requirements
- **Serve as POC** for Warfighter Management Group during RS application, treatment, and post-RS management.
- **Monitor** all RS-treated AF personnel; either by co-management with a DoD RS Center or by “Administrative Co-Management” for civilian treatments.
- **Attend** the USAF RS for Warfighters Workshop, USAF School of Aerospace Medicine, Brooks City-Base, TX, at the earliest possible opportunity based on local mission requirements.
 - If local operational mission requirements prevent attendance at this training prior to beginning RS care, unit commander may request a waiver from the USAFSAM/FECO with USAF/SG Optometry Consultant endorsement. These waivers are valid until the next scheduled workshop
 - Workshop attendance is highly recommended, at least, every four years or as directed by USAF-RS Consultant

Integrity - Service - Excellence

45

Details in AFI 48-123 (24 SEPT 2009), Chapter 12 and USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With
AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



Responsibilities – Air Force Eye Care Provider

- **Coordinate & accomplish** clinical screening, referral/application, post-RS evaluations IAW AFI 48-123 and Waiver guide
 - Use AF-approved RS application and post-RS evaluation forms
 - Sign the co-management agreement for member's post-RS management/care before any RS is scheduled. If co-management care agreement expires prior to intended surgery date, it must be reaccomplished.
- **Ensure** all post-RS evaluations, reports, and supporting documents are available for the FS's review through appropriate AHLTA documentation, supplemented by hard copies in the medical records when required.
- **Support** the FS's squadron and professional staff education briefings on RS and related policies.

Integrity - Service - Excellence

46

Details in AFI 48-123 (24 SEPT 2009), Chapter 12 and USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With
AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)

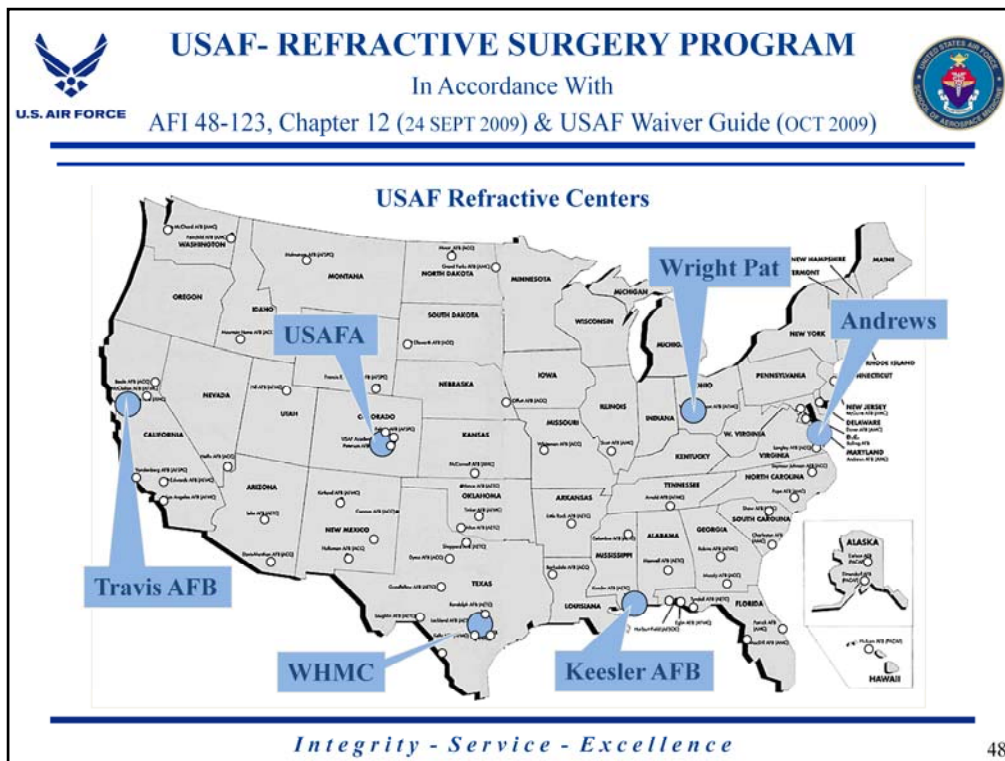
Responsibilities – Air Force Eye Care Provider

- **Warfighter Management**
 - Initiate and manage appropriate AF Form 469 (DLC report) in conjunction with member's PCM.
 - Certify member regarding RS-related duty restrictions and "Return to Duty" determinations.
 - Vision requirements based on Officer and Enlisted classification directory and AFI 48-123.
 - Notify applicable USAF-RS PM and USAF RS Consultant of any RS complications / incidents.
- **Aviation Management**
 - Certify member regarding RS-related duty restrictions and AASD vision requirement status.
 - Advise members FS on aircrew's status for appropriate DNIF actions.
 - Report to FS and USAF-RS APM aircrew that require grounding for unexpected RS-related events.


Integrity - Service - Excellence

47

Details in AFI 48-123 (24 SEPT 2009), Chapter 12 and USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)




Location of AF treatment centers (Jan 2010)

**U.S. AIR FORCE**


USAF- REFRACTIVE SURGERY PROGRAM

In Accordance With
AFI 48-123, Chapter 12 (24 SEPT 2009) & USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)



Program Information and References

- USAF – Refractive Surgery
 - AF Knowledge Exchange (DotMil):
<https://kx.afms.mil/USAF-RS>
 - Public Access:
<http://airforcemedicine.afms.mil/USAF-RS>
- USAF – Waiver Guide
 - <https://kx.afms.mil/waiverguide>
- USAF - OPTOMETRY
 - <https://kx.afms.mil/optometry>



Click on icon for
USAF-RS Website

Integrity - Service - Excellence

49

Details in AFI 48-123 (24 SEPT 2009), Chapter 12 and USAF Waiver Guide (OCT 2009)